



Baltimore City Energy Assistance Initiative

How is Baltimore City helping low-income residents who are facing significant utility rate increases?

City residents can call 410-396-5555 for an evaluation by the Housing Department for assistance with their energy bills. In addition, health care professionals can refer patients who would benefit from energy assistance to the Health Department. The Health Department will facilitate follow-up from the Housing Department and the Commission on Aging and Retirement Education (CARE) to link residents with available help.

How will this initiative work?

Clinicians who encounter patients in need of energy assistance can fax information about these patients to the Health Department. **Any health care provider can fax patient information, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to 410-558-6710 or 410-396-1571.**

The Health Department will then refer the patient's information to the Housing Department, which will evaluate patients for energy assistance and potential intervention with Baltimore Gas & Electric.

Social isolation is another contributor to heat related morbidity and mortality. The Commission on Aging and Retirement Education will contact patients to facilitate social engagement and access to senior centers.

How will the City know if these efforts have made a difference?

In addition to tracking the number of Baltimore City residents receiving energy assistance, the Health Department will track EMS calls for temperature-related transports, as well as reported hypothermia and hyperthermia among patients.